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U.S. WINTER WHEAT SEEDINGS UP 10 PERCENT; WYOMING DOWN 15 PERCENT

Wyoming farmers seeded an estimated 140,000 acres of **winter wheat** for harvest in 2011, according to Nancy Hussey with the Wyoming Field Office of USDA NASS. This is down 15 percent from 2010 and down 10 percent from the 2009 crop.

Nationally, winter wheat seeded area for 2011 is expected to total 41.0 million acres, up 10 percent from 2010 but 5 percent below 2009. Approximate class acreage breakdowns are: Hard Red Winter, 29.6 million; Soft Red Winter, 7.76 million; and White Winter, 3.66 million.

U.S. HAY STOCKS DOWN 5 PERCENT; WYOMING DOWN 17 PERCENT

Wyoming farms and ranches had 1.70 million tons of hay on hand on December 1, 2010. This was down 17 percent from December 1, 2009. Hay production for 2010 totaled 2.47 million tons, down 3 percent from 2009. Disappearance of hay from May 2010 - December 2010 totaled 1,167,000 tons compared with 727,000 tons a year earlier.

Nationally, stocks of all hay stored on farms totaled 102.0 million tons on December 1, 2010, down 5 percent from a year ago. Disappearance of hay from May 2010 - December 2010 totaled 64.4 million tons, compared with 62.5 million tons for the same period a year ago.